

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/009,693	KIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	

Suzanne M. Mayer, Ph.D. 1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on January 6, 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,12,13,20, and 22-23.
3. The drawings filed on 06 January 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in two telephone interviews with Mr. John Alexander on January 19, 2005 and January 27, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Rewrite claim 1 as follows: An isolated protein which has GABA transporter activity and contains an amino acid sequence, which has at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID No: 1, or a salt thereof.

Cancel claim 2.

Rewrite claim 12 as follows: A kit for screening a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits a GABA transporter activity, comprising the protein according to claim 1, its amide or ester, or a salt thereof.

Rewrite claim 13 as follows: A kit for screening a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits a GABA transporter activity of the protein according to claim

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1, its amide or ester, or a salt thereof, comprising the protein or its salt according to claim 1, its amide or ester, or a salt thereof.

Rewrite claim 20 as follows: An isolated protein which has a GABA transporter activity and contains an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID No: 1, or a salt thereof.

Cancel claim 21.

Rewrite claim 22 as follows: A kit for screening a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits a GABA transporter activity, comprising the protein according to claim 20, its amide or ester, or a salt thereof.

Rewrite claim 23 as follows: A kit for screening a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits a GABA transporter activity of the protein according to claim 20, its amide or ester, or a salt thereof, comprising the protein or its salt according to claim 20, its amide or ester, or a salt thereof.

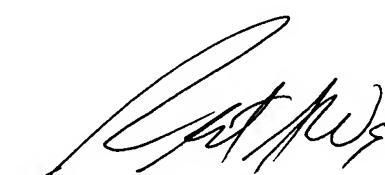
In the Abstract: on line 4, between "the" and "expression system" insert therein- -
- GABA transporter activity and screen medicament candidate compounds using
the - - -

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suzanne M. Mayer, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-2924. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jon Weber can be reached on 571-272-0925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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January 27, 2005


ROBERT A. WAX
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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